

SPECIAL DUTY – INFORMATION WARFARE (DESIG 1810)



Community Overview: Information Warfare (IW) is a Restricted Line community within the Information Dominance Corps comprising approximately 920 officers. IW Officers (IWO) are the DoD's premier force for Signals Intelligence (SIGINT), Electronic Warfare (EW) and Computer Network Operations.

Mission: Execute the full spectrum of cyber, cryptology, SIGINT, information operations, computer network operations and electronic warfare missions. This occurs across the cyber, electromagnetic and space domains to deter and defeat aggression, to provide warning of intent, and to ensure freedom of action while achieving military objectives in and through cyberspace.

Guiding Principles:

(1) Warfighting Competency: A warrior ethos underpins the Navy. IWOs lead by employing a thorough understanding of sensors and weapons, strategy and tactics, as well as national systems' capabilities and limitations. IWOs deliver capabilities and effects which help realize tactical, operational and strategic advantages afloat and ashore around the globe.

(2) Leadership: Leadership is a core competency for all Naval Officers, and our people are our foundation. IWOs seize the initiative, motivate people, and effectively apply finite resources to accomplish the mission.

(3) Professional Expertise: IWOs require knowledge of engineering and

technology, as well as the human factors of potential adversaries through cultural awareness. IWOs build this expertise through a combination of formal education and experience gained through successive career milestone tours.

Training Pipeline: New IWOs will attend the IW Basic Course (IWBC) for eight weeks in Pensacola, FL, and then complete the Information Warfare Officer Qualification Program (IWOQP) within 18 months after arriving at their first command. IWOs also qualify as Information Dominance Warfare Officers (IDWO).

Special pay/bonuses. None.

Academic/professional expertise.

(1) Required. Baccalaureate degree.

(2) Desired. Technical degrees in areas of study related to math, computer science, and engineering.

Basic eligibility requirements: All candidates must be worldwide assignable and eligible for a Top Secret/Sensitive Compartmented Information security clearance.

Accession Options.

(1) Direct Accession: The IW Community has direct accession quotas for NROTC, USNA, OCS and STA-21 programs.

(2) Lateral Gains: The IW Community accepts a limited number of officers each year via the semi-annual Lateral Transfer/Redesignation board and also the monthly Probationary Officer Continuation and Redesignation (POCR) board.

Web sites:

http://www.public.navy.mil/BUPERS-NPC/OFFICER/DETAILING/IDC_FAO/IW/Pages/default.aspx

Career Path:

(1) IWOs serve in challenging billets of ever increasing scope and responsibility both afloat and ashore. The IWO career path is designed to develop core competency expertise by interleaving sea,

shore and educational tours. IWOs are assigned to operational billets on, above and below the sea, as well as in support of Naval Special Warfare. Shore tours include National Security Agency Cryptologic Centers and Navy Information Operations Commands that deliver operational support critical to Combatant Commanders. There are IW billets on major Navy and Joint staffs as well as command opportunities around the globe for Captains and Commanders.

(2) Advanced education: Postgraduate education is important to the success of IWOs. IWOs can attend the Naval Postgraduate School to complete a Masters Degree in Electrical Engineering, Cyber Systems and Operations, Computer Science and Space Systems. There are also opportunities to attend one of the various service colleges to complete Joint Professional Military Education (JPME).

(3) Overseas duty. The IW Community is present around the world. IWO's should expect to be assigned to overseas billets.

(4) Promotion opportunities. Promotion to LTJG and LT occur at 2 and 4 years of commissioned service respectively. IW officers promote to LCDR between 9 and 11 years of commissioned service; to CDR between 15 and 17 years of commissioned service; and to CAPT between 21 and 23 years of service.

Point of Contact

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